

BUFFALO COURIER EXPRESS
29 SEP 66

Helms and Bissell

Judge OKs Subpoenas For Top CIA Figures

CPYRGHT

The director of the Central Intelligence Agency was ordered subpoenaed Wednesday to testify in the trials of three men on charges of conspiring to smuggle World War II-vintage B26 bombers to Portugal.

Federal Judge John O. Henderson issued the subpoena order on the motion of Atty. Edwin Marger of Miami Beach, Fla., counsel for John R. Hawke, 28, one of the defendants in the case.

Judge Henderson's order directed that subpoenas be issued "forthwith" for CIA Director Richard Helms and 10 others, in-

cluding Richard M. Bissell, past deputy director of the CIA.

7 Planes Said Delivered

The government accuses the defendants of conspiring to smuggle 29 of the twin-engined attack bombers to Portugal in the spring and summer of 1965. Seven airplanes actually are reported to have made the trip.

Hawke and Marger have claimed the CIA was aware of the venture and secretly approved it because the bombers were to be used to help quell "Communist-inspired" uprising in the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique.

On trial with the bearded former RAF pilot are Count Henri M. F. deMarin deMontmarin, 58, a Paris businessman said to have ordered the airplanes for a Swiss firm, and Woodrow W. Roderick, 47, of Winnipeg, Man., businessman accused of executing the contract with a Tucson, Ariz., supplier, Aero Associates Inc.

An Interesting Question

Asked if Helms will obey the order to appear, Marger said:

"We believe he should be available like any other employee of the government. Whether he will be available is an interesting question. Maybe it will be decided in this court in the first instance."

The judge's order noted that Marger will accept, in place of Helms, "a person or persons sufficiently acquainted with the issues of this case."

Marger wants Helms and Bissell to testify on previous CIA use of the B26 bomber in international affairs and what the lawyer called "its export without government license."

The government will pay the costs of the appearances of the 11 witnesses. Marger's motion requested government payment on the grounds that Hawke, who now lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., is indigent.

U.S. Promised Not to Supply

The rest of Marger's list consisted of pilots, aviation writers and businessmen, Federal Agency officials, an FBI agent and the records clerk of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, where the U.S. once promised not to supply Portugal weapons for use in Africa.